

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An apparatus for measuring the volume of individual particles in a liquid,  
the apparatus comprising:

- 5 (a) a container for suspending particles in a liquid, said container being  
suitable to perform transmission measurements;
- (b) a means for illuminating the suspension with a wavelength of light;
- (c) a means for measuring the intensity of transmitted light that  
reemerges from said suspension; and
- 10 (d) a means for changing the thickness of said container by a known  
amount.

2. The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising a microscope.

3. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the container is an optical cuvette.

4. The apparatus of claim 3 wherein the optical cuvette comprises an input  
window and an output window.

15 5. The apparatus of claim 3 wherein the optical cuvette comprises a  
microscope slide and a cover slip.

6. The apparatus of claim 2 wherein a fixed plunger is provided that comes  
into contact with said container when said container is moved towards the objective lens  
of said microscope.

20 7. The apparatus of claim 6 wherein the container is an optical cuvette.

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8. The apparatus of claim 7 wherein the optical cuvette comprises an input window and an output window.
9. The apparatus of claim 7 wherein the optical cuvette comprises a microscope slide and a cover slip.

10. The apparatus of claim 7 wherein the optical cuvette comprises a microscope slide and a cover slip.